



The official monthly publication of the Alabama Department of Public Safety

THE BLUE LIGHT



AUGUST 2008

THE HONORABLE BOB RILEY
Governor

COLONEL J. CHRISTOPHER MURPHY
Director

LT. COLONEL F.A. BINGHAM
Assistant Director

MAJOR JERRY CONNER
ABI Division

MAJOR JAMES LYONS
Administrative Division

MAJOR HUGH MCCALL
Driver License Division

MAJOR ROSCOE HOWELL
Highway Patrol Division

MAJOR HERMAN WRIGHT
Protective Services Division

MAJOR CHARLES ANDREWS
Service Division



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The Colonel's Corner

Col. J. Christopher Murphy, Director



Ninety-six as of this writing! That is how many fewer fatalities troopers have worked this year, compared to this time last year. And as a reminder, trooper-worked fatalities dropped 62 in 2007, compared with 2006. I could not be more pleased with the outstanding job that the women and men of the Highway Patrol are doing to keep our roadways safer. Their work also translates into 1,681 fewer crashes, 1,161 fewer injuries, and more than 300 additional DUI arrests. Highway Patrol — working with ABI — also has seized more than 100 pounds of cocaine, in excess of 5,500 pounds of marijuana, 800+ pills of Ecstasy, and more than \$2 million. These are phenomenal statistics. My deepest appreciation goes out to all who have worked tirelessly toward the mission of DPS in roadway safety.

Because we can never rest on our past accomplishments, we have scheduled a statewide “Take Back Our Highways”

campaign this summer. I again have requested participation from all divisions, and Gov. Riley has volunteered to be present at the initial news conference and lend the full support of his office to this campaign. I was very pleased that the colonel of the Tennessee Highway Patrol contacted us to see if we were doing another campaign. Both the Tennessee Highway Patrol and Mississippi Highway Patrol want to partner with us again in this campaign. Major Roscoe Howell and I addressed both the Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police and the Alabama Sheriffs Association, and they too want to partner again for this campaign. I am very pleased that these partners have seen the positive results of this enforcement effort, and I believe we once again will make a huge difference during that week. Even more importantly, I know we are changing the driving behavior of motorists on our roadways. This campaign is not just about the week's total number of citations, or even the fatality rate that week. It is about changing driving behavior and drawing motorists' attention to poor driving behavior, particularly those behaviors that contribute to severe and fatal crashes. Once again our emphasis will be on aggressive driving, speed, driver inattention, seatbelt and child restraint usage, and impaired driving.

Way before my time, Alabama state troopers who were concerned about alcohol-involved crashes and fatalities developed Task Force Zero, targeting impaired drivers. Then, through creative resourcing, they acquired an old bread delivery truck and turned it into a home-made breath testing station to streamline the process and make it more efficient. That illustrates the commitment and dedication of those in this department. I am very excited that, thanks to Gov. Riley and the tremendous support of and partnership with the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, DPS is receiving nine BAT Mobiles. Each troop will have one of the new, fully equipped and self-contained BAT Mobiles to combat impaired driving. Thank you, Gov. Riley, Terry Henderson, Bobby Pruitt, Director Bill Johnson and all at ADECA!

Thanks also to all who will take part in “Take Back Our Highways.” Lt. Col. Bingham and I look forward to seeing you on the road.



New Chargers Usher in Era of Aggressive Enforcement

Murphy announces a new focus on targeting aggressive drivers of cars and trucks on Alabama roadways with the arrival of 11 new semi-marked Dodge Chargers at a press conference held at the Montgomery Post.

The Department of Public Safety rolled out aggressive driving crackdowns just in time for the summer travel season, announcing the initiatives in two separate press conferences in July. The initial press conference urged motorist safety during the Independence Day holiday weekend, and the second one followed with the announcement of 11 new semi-marked Dodge Chargers.

The 11 new semi-marked Chargers join the nine fully marked Chargers that have been in service since March 2007. These cars already have proven their effectiveness as “interceptor” vehicles, enabling troopers to quickly apprehend speeders and other violators.

In the press conference, Col. J. Christopher Murphy talked about the use of semi-marked patrol vehicles. “At first glance, these new cars look civilian. Their paint jobs might even match that of your own personal vehicle. But when these cars get up behind you and flip on their blue lights, you’ll know; and if there is still any doubt, the cars are marked only on the passenger side,” said Murphy.

The new Chargers are a centerpiece of Public Safety’s crackdown on aggressive driving, especially in the vicinity of commercial vehicles. The new initiative targets violations most commonly associated with aggressive driving, which usually involves a combination of two or more of the following offenses: unsafe lane changes, tailgating or following too closely, failing to yield the right of way, and speeding. The program is specifically aimed at high-crash and high-traffic corridors.

The focus on aggressive drivers is directly patterned after the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s TACT program. An acronym for Targeting Aggressive Cars and Trucks, the federal program seeks to reduce risky driving by passenger cars and commercial truck drivers



Sgt. Brent McElvaine speaks at the Independence Day safety press conference at the Riverfront Amphitheater in Montgomery.



alike through strict enforcement and by promoting safety awareness.

Murphy said Alabama is working directly with the FMCSA to develop a framework to fully implement the TACT program in Alabama. Currently, Washington, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Georgia receive federal funding to support the TACT initiative.

“We are dedicated to targeting aggressive drivers, and the acquisition of these new Chargers is a testament to that dedication,” said Murphy. “The Charger is a valuable enforcement tool that supplements and enhances our HP fleet.”

Receiving a Charger is, in many respects, an honor and a reward for proven aggressive enforcement. “The Charger is a car that gets noticed on the road,” said Tpr. John Bogle, one of the 11 troopers receiving a Charger at the press conference. “We work hard, and it is nice to be recognized for our hard work.”

Other troopers receiving Chargers at the press conference are Tprs. Tony Ellis, Wil Keenan, Charles Kistler, John Mahler, Nathan Mills, Eric Smith, James Smith, Terry Stallworth, Michael Strickland, and Bobby White.





ABI DiveTeam Whets Desire for Underwater Discovery

Whitaker searches the murky waters of the Tallapoosa River for a drowned fisherman.

Certified police divers Sgts. Russell Foshee and Gary Whitaker of ABI responded to help locate a fisherman who drowned in the Tallapoosa River in Tallassee July 15. This was the second time the newly formed dive team has been called to respond to a drowning in Tallassee, the first one occurring in April.

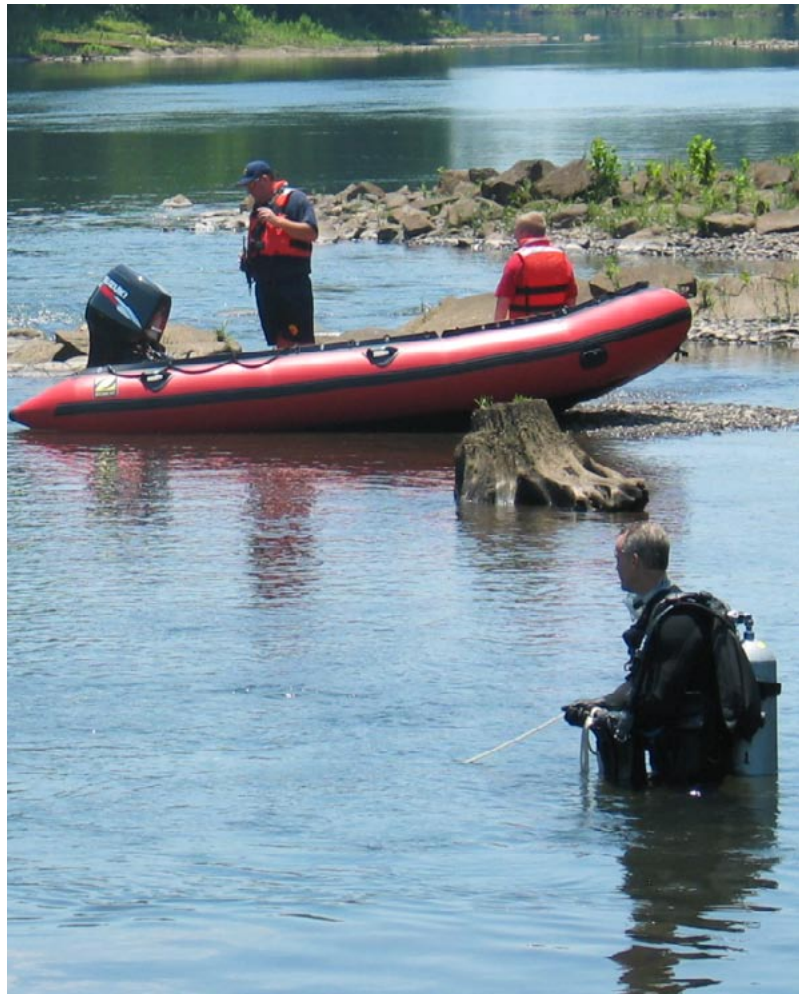
In another recent case, the dive team was called to Escambia County to investigate the discovery of suspected human remains in a lake. The dive team was able to determine the bones that had been found were those of a deer. In an upcoming mission, the dive team is slated to try to recover a potential murder weapon from a lake in Rome, Ga.

“Business is definitely picking up for us,” said Foshee. “Now that our SOP is written, people are taking note and realizing this is a wonderful resource for the citizens of Alabama.” Foshee noted the dive team was organized primarily for purposes of evidence recovery, an ability the state previously has lacked.

Helping the dive team get off the ground and in the water was a grant from the Department of Homeland Security to purchase equipment and pay for training. Currently, the team comprises divers Foshee and Whitaker, line tenders Tprs. Darren Davis and Robert Saffold, and liaisons Lts. Clay Barnes and Karl Youngblood.

Line tenders assist the divers by better organizing the territory into line or grid patterns, to deliberately and completely cover an area. “We are getting away from free searching and covering the same tracks over and over,” said Foshee.

“While I dove on a make-shift team within ABI for years,” Youngblood said, “I am very impressed



Dive Team (Continued)

with the groundwork that has been laid with this new ABI dive team. Our dive team members are highly qualified from the National Academy of Police Divers, and the equipment purchased for them is first-rate.”

Foshee and Barnes began researching the necessary equipment in June 2007, and decided to meet with Bill Woodail, supervisor of the Department of Transportation Bridge Inspection Dive Team. Woodail could not stress enough the importance of the dive equipment, as divers are entrusting their lives to its quality.

“When most people think of diving,” said Youngblood, “they usually think of SCUBA tours off a reef in the Caribbean, where you have warm waters and high visibility. Most scenarios involving police diving are low to zero visibility, where you basically only use your hands to explore the territory.”

Foshee is returning to school for the dive team in September, but this time to become an instructor. “Moving dive training in-house will make us a fully self-sustaining unit, where we can train our own divers for situations specific for what we routinely encounter under water,” he said.



DRE School Graduates Lead to More DUI Arrests

DPS recently graduated four troopers from the DRE school to work in conjunction with Task Force Zero. DRE, or the Drug Recognition Expert program, already has proven successful in identifying drug-impaired drivers, and the resource provides TFZ with yet another invaluable tool in removing impaired drivers from Alabama’s roadways.

The two-week course extensively covers the signs of drug impairment otherwise unnoticed by standard breathalyzer equipment. Students of the DRE school receive detailed instruction in the techniques of drug evaluation examining as well as in physiology, the effects of drugs and legal considerations.

“It’s the hardest class I’ve ever taken,” said Tpr. John Bogle. “In training, I learned to watch for things that I usually wouldn’t notice. This is great for DPS because it will only lead to more arrests of impaired drivers.”

“Enforcing drug impairment has always been a little tricky,” said Lt. Tim Pullin of Highway Patrol. “When you are looking at a driver you think is drunk, but the breathalyzer isn’t showing a trace of alcohol, as a trooper, you almost feel like your hands are tied. Having certified Drug Recognition Experts definitely benefits us there.”

The DRE program has roots that stretch back as far as 1984, when the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began supporting the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program. Initially developed by the Los Angeles Police Department, the program has since been validated through both laboratory and field studies by Johns Hopkins University. As the program spread out nationally, strict standards were adopted by the Highway Safety Committee to ensure continued success.

In addition to Bogle, troopers completing the training and gaining certification are Cpl. Joe Penton, Tpr. Chad Blankinchip, and Tpr. Eric Smith.



For the past 11 years, the members of the Alabama Service and Assistance Patrol have made it their mission and responsibility to initiate measures to reduce traffic congestion from wrecks and other incidents along the busy interstate system in Jefferson and Shelby counties.

“ASAP works to restore normal traffic flow as soon as possible,” said Unit

Commander Cpl. Anthony Riley. “When we’re not responding to crashes, we’re helping stranded motorists in stalled vehicles or clearing road debris.”



ASAP was initiated in June 1997, as an emergency response unit within the Highway Patrol Division. During its first 10 years, the unit provided 243,822 services on Alabama roadways, ranging from traffic control to changing flat tires, providing mechanical assistance, removing disabled vehicles, tagging abandoned vehicles, and even providing emergency fuel for tanks that have run dry. ASAP is funded by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

“With gas prices climbing, we’ve seen a steady increase in people running out of fuel on the interstate. Of course, with the addition of carrying spare fuel, we also have jump boxes and air compressors,” said Riley. “We’re essentially the AAA of the Birmingham metro-area.”

The unit, comprising 18 employees, regularly works two shifts per day, Monday through Friday, with seven to eight staff members per shift. With an average of 10 assists per employee, per shift, there rarely is time to think about how important ASAP’s job is in keeping the interstates running smoothly throughout metro Birmingham.

Thankfully, their efforts do not go unnoticed, and the motoring public has expressed appreciation for ASAP many times. A 76-year-old woman recently wrote, “I have never been so thankful for a service provided by the State of Alabama as I was last Friday night. Alone in my car, I had a blowout. Your operator assured me that he was ready and able to help. He was courteous, capable, and reassuring to a very nervous lady. I expressed my appreciation to him, but I want to commend your whole organization. It is one of the most worthwhile things ever done in our state.”

Riley said he agrees: “I truly am proud of everything ASAP accomplishes. It is an honor and a privilege to be part of such an outstanding unit.”

ASAP’s Web site, currently under construction, will soon be viewable at: www.dot.state.al.us/Public_Info/asap.asp.



BACK TO SCHOOL THE SAFE WAY

With the summer vacation season winding down, and the beginning of the school year just days away, many Alabama families find themselves in the hustle and bustle of back-to-school preparedness. There's the headache of school registration, the long list of supplies and fees, and all of the athletic events and extra-curricular activities. With so much going on, we sometimes forget to be mindful of our safety and the safety of others.

The beginning of the school year marks an increased risk of transportation-related injuries to children. When school is in session, there are more children on roadways in the morning and afternoon hours, and many driving patterns should change to reflect that. As the school year goes on, the days also get shorter, and less daylight reduces the visibility of young pedestrians and bicyclists.

So, as the kids return to school to learn, let's all take the time to teach ourselves about traffic safety. These notes from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration are a great place to start. Ensure a safe and happy school year for you and your community.

Notes for Motorists

- Slow down and obey all traffic laws and speed limits.
- Always stop for a school bus that has stopped to load or unload passengers. Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm tell you the school bus is stopped to load or unload children. State law requires you to stop.
- Be alert and ready to stop.
- Watch for children walking in the street, especially on roads without sidewalks.
- Watch for children playing and gathering near bus stops.
- Watch for children arriving late for the bus, who may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch for children walking or biking to school.
- When driving in neighborhoods or school zones, watch for young people who may be in a hurry to get to school and may not be thinking about getting there safely.

Tips for Parents

- Help your children learn and practice the safety rules for walking, bicycling, or riding in a passenger car, school bus or transit bus.
- Supervise young children as they are walking or biking to school or as they wait at the school bus stop.
- Be a good role model, especially when you are with your kids. Always buckle up in the car, always wear a helmet when biking, and always follow pedestrian safety rules.

Tips for Teachers

- Teach young children the safety rules for traveling to school, whether it be walking, bicycling, or riding in a motor vehicle or on a school bus. NHTSA has developed a variety of kid-friendly materials and teaching tools. These can be downloaded by going to NHTSA's Web site at www.nhtsa.dot.gov and clicking the traffic safety banner at the top of the page.
- Support any "Getting to School Safely" activities sponsored by your school, the PTA/PTO, or other community organizations.

- Be a good role model. Always use your seat belt, wear a helmet when bicycling or riding a motorcycle and practice pedestrian safety rules.

Tips for Students

- Always buckle up when you're riding in a car.
- Always ride in the back seat. It's the safest place for young people.
- Always wear a helmet and follow traffic safety rules when riding your bike.
- If you ride a school bus, learn and practice the safety rules for waiting at the bus stop, getting on and off the bus, and riding the bus.
- If you walk to school, learn and practice the safety rules for pedestrians. Always cross at cross walks, obey all traffic signs, traffic lights and safety patrol instructions.
- Be a good role model for your younger brothers and sisters and friends, and help them learn and practice the safety rules.

DPS Honor Guard Pays Ultimate Respect in Final Salute



Growing out of Public Safety's desire to recognize law enforcement service with fitting ceremony and final salute, the DPS Honor Guard became operational more than 28 years ago. While the Honor Guard has grown from its original 14 members to 42, and seen the prominent addition of bagpipers in the early 1980's, tradition is at the heart of the program, as the Honor Guard has carried on in the same manner and fashion since its inception. Tradition is so rooted within the Honor Guard that even the uniforms are virtually the same today as they were in 1980, notwithstanding a recent request to alter the uniform slightly.

The additional duty assignment of Honor Guard is truly an honor for arresting officers. As Capt. Neil Tew, Honor Guard commander, explains, "There is a great desire in each of us to perform well at each and every detail. We are paying the ultimate respect to the families, and it obviously means a lot to them."

Lt. Karl Wade, a charter member and alternate commander of the first Honor Guard, recalls the origins of the Honor Guard. "While we wrote the standard operation procedure in March of 1980, and were fully operational on May 1, 1980, our first detail was the retiring of a flag on the south lawn of the Capitol, and immediately the Honor Guard received high praise."

Other honor guards have since modeled themselves after the program here at DPS, including the Alabama Fraternal Order of Police and the Montgomery Police Department.

Over the years, the Honor Guard has performed numerous details. "We perform at all trooper graduations, and we've performed in several parades," says Wade. "During Fob James's first administration, we even had a detail escorting Israeli ambassadors for the governor. However, the most important detail we do is performing that final salute for law enforcement officers. All fallen officers, not just troopers, deserve that tribute, and that is exactly why we make ourselves available for all law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in the state."





Twenty-seven reserve troopers were sworn in July 24. The Alabama State Trooper Reserve's mission is to augment and assist DPS in all its duties, details, and activities.

Members volunteer to support the mission of the department and assist in the performance of routine patrol and enforcement duties, as well as missions during disasters, emergencies, special events and other activities at the request of the director.

T-3 Now in Use by Capitol Police

If you have been in or around the state Capitol Complex recently, you may have caught a glimpse of the new T-3 electric personal mobility vehicle. DPS recently acquired two T-3s for use by Capitol Police around the complex.

Cpl. Addre Bryant, one of three officers trained to use the T-3, said, "The device is excellent at getting to areas where patrol cars cannot. Response time has decreased dramatically with use of the T-3 around the capital city."

The T-3 has been in use around the Capitol Complex for the past few months, and in that short time frame, the mobile transport already has proven its versatility in the field. With greater mobility, officers using the T-3 are able to perform nearly all required duties with the transport, the sole omission being the transportation of prisoners. "Patrol cars are still needed for that," said Bryant.

Capitol Police officers using the T-3 personal transport must first obtain bicycle certification, a 32-hour course, with an additional half day of training to acquaint themselves with the transport device. Along with Bryant, other Capitol Police officers certified to use the T-3 are Raymond Brothers and Victor Lee.

Each T-3 vehicle has a zero-turn radius, is capable of going in excess of 25 mph, and has a range of 25 miles between charges.





Financial Services Holds Timesheet Training

Financial Services held a timesheet training class July 31 at DPS Headquarters to fully explain the provisions of Policy Order 669. Instructors of the class were Jack McDaniel, Shaundra Morris, and Debra Schodorf.

The class provided an overview of the timesheet process and answered several questions on proper form procedure. "The biggest thing needing clarification was the confusion on properly accounting for holidays," said Morris. "The class went well, and we were able to solve a lot of potential problems in the future by having this class."

If you were unable to attend the timesheet training, information for employees from the class will soon be placed on SafetyNet.



Organization Thanks DPS for Assisting with Trail of Tears Ride

The Alabama – Tennessee Trail of Tears Corridor Association, sponsors of the Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride, took time to thank DPS for its efforts each year in making the motorcycle ride such a success. Ellen Pitman presented a certificate and commemorative brick to Col. J. Christopher Murphy July 3 at a ceremony in the director's office. Last year's motorcycle ride drew an estimated 150,000 participants, with troopers and trooper pilots working to ensure safety and security throughout the event.



Staff at driver license office pleasant, efficient

Reprinted with permission from *The Decatur Daily*.

After driving on an international license for the last two years, I was informed I would need to obtain an Alabama driver license. This is not really a problem, except I am British and do not have a Social Security number, since I am not allowed to work.

I was told a thousand horror stories about what problems I would face, and how dreadful it was to try and get a driver license, with long waits, rude staff and a sundry of other problems.

Having made a stop at the local Social Security Office, which was great fun, as it was quiet, I obtained a letter to take to the driving license bureau. On my arrival at the courthouse, the office had only three or four people waiting, and when my

number was called, I was treated with such friendliness that I thought I must be in the wrong place, as this surely was not what I had been warned about. After a chat, an eye test and a photo, I was told to go to the computer monitor; press the screen, and hey, presto. In less than five minutes, I was told I had passed the written examination. After a technical hitch on my part, I returned three days later at 7:45 a.m., was the first person in the office and the first out to take the road test.

Ten minutes later, I was the proud owner of an Alabama driver license. I had a great experience. The staff was incredibly friendly, helpful and extremely efficient.

The process in the United Kingdom is nowhere near as efficient. You have to book a test months in advance. If you then have to change your date and time for the test, it can take another two months before you get another date.

Give these people a break. They are doing a fine job.

Vee Harness, Decatur



Found Illustration Makes Way to Safety Museum

Sgt. Tracy Nelson of Public Information/Education recently made a unique discovery while sorting through the archives at DPS Headquarters. In weeding out material to be discarded, Nelson stumbled across an original oil painting of a pedestrian who had been struck by a car.

“I first thought it was junk,” said Nelson. “The painting was disturbing, and I really wondered why we even had it in the first place.”

Still, the painting was an original, so Nelson enlisted Dorris Teague’s assistance to do a little research on the artist, Hy Hintermeister. Teague was familiar with the painting and recalled seeing it propped up on top of a filing cabinet in the sub-basement of the old DPS Headquarters at 500 Dexter Ave. Still, she and Nelson were surprised to learn that the artist was famous, known particularly for painting courtroom scenes and several magazine covers.

Nelson then contacted Hugh Hetzer, an expert and fan of Hintermeister’s work. Hetzer informed Nelson that the artist completed a series of paintings in the 1950’s to promote traffic safety. DPS’s painting appears to have been part of that series. Hetzer also said DPS’s is a painting he personally has never seen, and paintings from that set are extremely difficult to find. Of the more than 1,000 known illustrations Hintermeister made in his career, only 12 prints from the series are known to exist today.

According to retired Capt. Roy Smith, who serves as DPS historian, the painting was commissioned by the National Safety Council and presented to the department decades ago. Nelson has promised to place this rare find in the safety education museum at Headquarters.

People You Know!



New Employees

Zackery Bufr	7/01/08	Legal Research Assistant	ADM/Legal Unit
Andrea Godbolt	6/16/08	PCO I	HP/Evergreen
Bryan Hamrick	6/16/08	Trooper	HP/Montgomery
Yolanda Harriel	6/16/08	ASA I	DL/Hearing Unit
Michelle Moses	6/16/08	ASA I	ABI/Identification Unit
Randy Putnam	6/18/08	Trooper Trainee	ADM/ACJTC
Jacqueline William	6/16/08	ASA I	ABI/Montgomery

Promotions

Donald Byrd	7/01/08	Corporal	HP/FAP
William Manning	7/01/08	Warehouse Superintendent	SER/Fleet Maintenance
Rachel McGill	7/01/08	Latent Print Examiner	ABI/Latent Prints
Jessie Williams	7/01/08	Sergeant	DL/Opelika Examining

Transfers

Eric Bryant	7/01/08	Trooper	HP/Motor Carrier Compliance
Christopher Faulk	7/01/08	Trooper	HP/FAP
Tony Fleming	7/01/08	Trooper	HP/FAP
Tommy Horton	7/01/08	Trooper	HP/FAP
James Howell	7/01/08	Corporal	PS/Cherokee County
Erik Hunt	7/01/08	Trooper	HP/FAP
Wade Pruitt	7/01/08	Captain	ABI/CIC
George Roe	7/01/08	Trooper	HP/FAP
Thomas Taylor	7/01/08	Corporal	HP/Limestone County
Angela Thompson	6/16/08	ASA I	ABI/CIC

Resignations

Judy Dean	7/15/08	Departmental Operations Specialist	ADM/FARS
Maurice Dixon	7/07/08	Custodial Worker	ADM/ACJTC
John Foye	6/10/08	PCO I	HP/Opelika
Darryl Johnson	6/20/08	DL Examiner I	DL/Opelika
Chauncey Jones	7/04/08	Custodial Worker	HP/Quad Cities
Aaron Leger	6/16/08	Trooper	ADM/ACJTC
Hugh McQueen	6/15/08	PCO I	HP/Opelika
Saunja Peoples	7/01/08	PCO I	HP/Huntsville
Bradley Pritts	6/29/08	Trooper	ADM/ACJTC
Matthew Rabren	6/30/08	Trooper	ADM/ACJTC
Andre Reid	7/07/08	Retired State Employee	ADM/Director's Office
Danny Summerford	6/16/08	Trooper	ADM/ACJTC
Lisa Young	6/30/08	DL Examiner I	DL/Birmingham

Retirement

Jo Marzano	6/30/08	IT Systems Specialist	DL/Information Services
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**AMBER
ALERT**

AMBER ALERT TRAINING

The Alabama Broadcasters Association is sponsoring an AMBER Alert scenario-based training seminar this month in Birmingham for media representatives and law enforcement officers.

Developed by the University of South Carolina's School of Journalism and Mass Communication through a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, the training is designed to help participants work through specially designed scenarios.

The sessions are free to registered participants, and target law enforcement officers, AMBER Alert coordinators, and journalists. They will be held at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center Medical Forum from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16.

"Alabama is extremely lucky to have this training brought to us," said ABA president Sharon Tinsley. "The training, usually taking place at USC's Newsplex in Columbia, S.C., last year brought more than 200 media personnel from across the nation, as well as participants from Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands."

Participants will hear discussions on a variety of topics, including message content, public perception, legal updates, media and law enforcement coordination, as well as scenario-interactive presentations.

For more information, contact Faye Hester, ABI, at 334-353-0661, or Martha Earnhardt, Public Information/Education, at 334-242-4445.



Alabama Department of



Public Safety

CONTRIBUTING:

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Lt. Karl Youngblood, ABI

Sgt. Jessie Peoples, HP

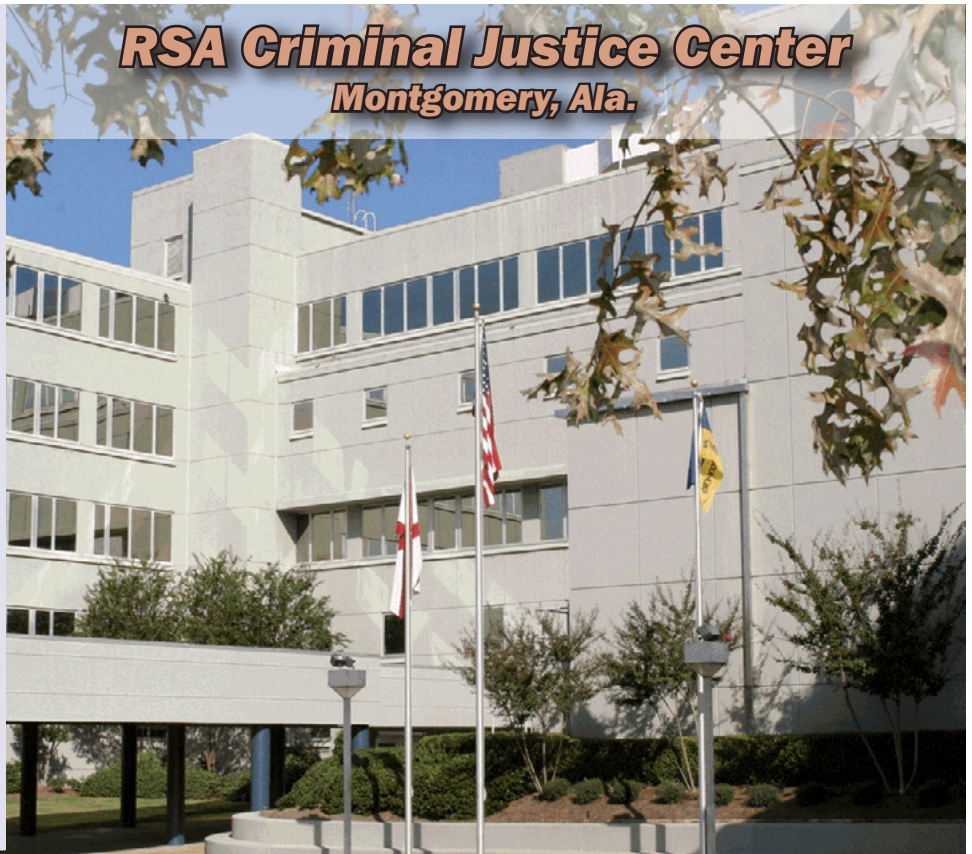
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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

DPS.ALABAMA.GOV

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

STAY IN TOUCH WITH *THE BLUE LIGHT*.

PLEASE E-MAIL ALL REQUESTS TO:

RYAN.GODFREY@DPS.ALABAMA.GOV

On Your Calendar

Monday, September 1

Labor Day

Monday, October 13

Columbus Day

Tuesday, November 11

Veterans Day

Thursday, November 27

Thanksgiving

Training Schedule for ACJTC for August 2008

Date	Event
Aug 1-2	Trooper Reserve Training
4-8	Trooper Class 2008A and 2008B
8-9	Trooper Reserve Training
11-15	Trooper Class 2008A and 2008B
18-22	Trooper Class 2008A and 2008B
18-22	Accident Reconstruction
18-22	Basic Police Session 133
18-22	Radar/23 Outside Agencies
22	Retirees In-Service
25-29	Trooper Class 2008A and 2008B
25-29	Accident Reconstruction
25-29	Basic Police Session 133

July 6, 2008

Greetings! I recently was caught speeding along Interstate 65 North in Autauga county this Independence Day weekend. I want you to know that Tpr. D. Williams was very courteous and professional. The trooper made me read a statement about someone being killed in a car crash every ten minutes. This had a deep impact on me, and now I realize I was unnecessarily being careless on the road when I shouldn't have been. Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

Mark Gregson